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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

#2

Applicants : Isao Amari  
Hidetoshi Kobayashi  
Kenji Ozawa  
Hiroyuki Oiyama

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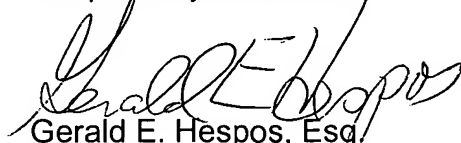
Box PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF DOCUMENTS  
CITED IN INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Sir:

This request is accompany by copy of Form PTO-1449 which identifies three Japanese publications. Copies of the identified documents are attached as well. These three documents were cited in the International Search Report and were considered by the searcher to be relevant to the subject invention. The U.S. Examiner is respectfully requested to consider these documents during the prosecution of the U.S. application and to make these documents of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald E. Hespos, Esq.  
Atty. Reg. No. 30,066  
Customer No. 001218  
CASELLA & HESPOS LLP  
274 Madison Avenue - Suite 1703  
New York, NY 10016  
Tel. (212) 725-2450  
Fax (212) 725-2452

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